



ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

March 11, 2005

The Honorable Michael Castle
1233 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Diana DeGette
1527 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Castle and DeGette:

On behalf of the Association of American Universities, which represents 60 leading public and private research universities in the United States, I am writing to express support for H.R. 810, the *Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2005*, which you introduced on February 15, 2005.

AAU supports the intent of your legislation to allow federally supported researchers to use stem cell lines derived from embryos discarded by fertility clinics and, in effect, remove the restrictions imposed by President Bush in 2001 that limited federally funded stem cell research to stem cell lines derived before August 9, 2001.

Thank you for your sustained efforts to make stem cell research a priority in the United States. AAU fully supported H.R. 4682, the *Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2004*, as well as your letter sent last year to President Bush with 206 signatures from Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and 58 U.S. Senators, and your letter sent in February to President Bush again urging him to expand or update the current stem cell policy.

AAU continues to offer you our full support in the 109th Congress. Please let me know if AAU can be of assistance in promoting your bill as an important step in expanding federal support for embryonic stem cell research.

Cordially,

Nils Hasselmo, President

Brandeis University
Brown University
California Institute of Technology
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Emory University
Harvard University
Indiana University
Iowa State University
The Johns Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Michigan State University
New York University
Northwestern University
The Ohio State University
The Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Rice University
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Stanford University
SUNY Brook University-State University
of New York
Syracuse University
Texas A&M University
Tulane University
The University of Arizona
University at Buffalo, The State University
of New York
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
The University of Chicago
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Florida
University of Illinois at Urbana-
Champaign
The University of Iowa
The University of Kansas
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of Missouri-Columbia
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
The University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill
University of Oregon
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Yale University